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27 November 1962

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director (Research)

SUBJECT : Status of RBX-RX Program

REFERENCE : Memo from DD/R to DCI, Dated 26 November 1962;
Same Subject

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1. In connection with the reference, Leo Geary tells me that there is a certain amount of confusion with regard to the status of the RX proposal within the Air Force itself. Apparently, according to Geary who has discussed this with Dr. Charyk, the paper which went to the White House contains little or no definitive information regarding the RX configuration.

2. For example, Leo quoted Dr. Charyk as saying that there was not even agreement within the Air Force as to how many people there should be in the aircraft crew, and further that the figure of two is highly conditional as are any figures on weight and rescaling of the A-12 itself.

3. With regard to my "membership" on a Charyk committee to study the effects of the RX on the A-12 (OXCART), Leo says that Charyk does not intend to convene such a group unless and until the RX paper is returned from the White House with indications that the President favors moving ahead with the whole program. Leo seemed of the opinion that what the Air Force has really accomplished by this device is to set the design parameters of the RX configuration without regard to the validity of any operational requirement. I could be a little more confused about this, but I am not sure how. Just thought you might wish to know that there appears to be a certain amount of confusion within NRO itself on this whole business.

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